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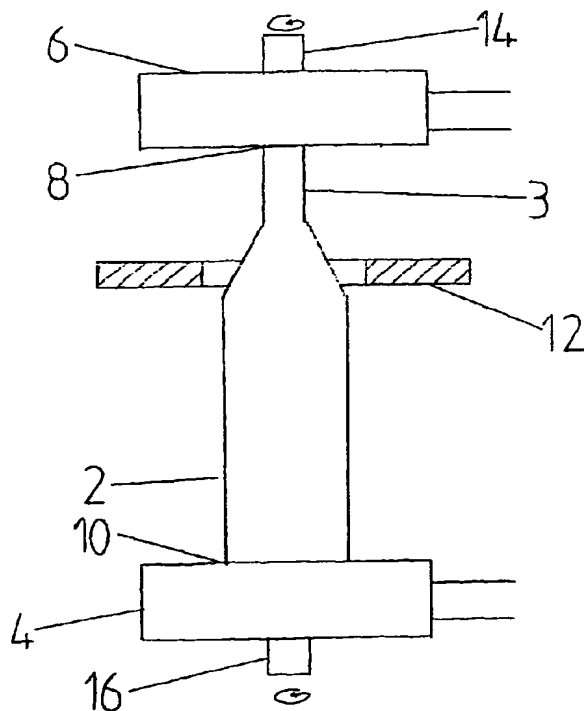
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING A PREFORM



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method and an apparatus for processing a preform and/or drawing an optical fibre. The method is characterized by securing the preform (2) to the processing device by means of at least two separate gripping means (4, 6), heating the preform (2) or a section thereof by means of at least one heating device at least locally, generating a tension in the preform (2) by means of the gripping means (4, 6), and processing the preform (2) by moving one of the gripping means (4, 6) and the heating means (12) and by keeping the gripping means (4, 6) on the side of the end product of the preform in position relative to the body of the processing device, whereby the end product produced also remains in position relative to the body of the processing device.

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